



Calgary Weekly Newscasts Lesson Plan

October 19, 2015

Newscasts are current news stories read at a slower pace than you might hear on the radio. These are prepared by CBC news editor Natasha Frakes.

Lesson Plan Objectives:

- To develop listening skills
- To increase vocabulary
- To increase knowledge of current events
- To provide a user-friendly, self-study tool for learners, as well as, an ESL classroom resource for instructors
- To increase awareness of grammatical structures and functional language

Lesson Plan Contents:

Three news stories are featured in each weekly lesson plan. Each lesson contains helpful vocabulary explanations and listening comprehension activities. At the end of each lesson you will find a complete transcript and an answer key. **This lesson plan is geared towards learners at an intermediate language level (i.e. Canadian Language Benchmarks 4-5 or equivalent).**



Lesson Plan prepared by Deidre Lake, Communication4Integration Inc.

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NEWSCAST 1

A WINNIPEG FAMILY DENIED ENTRY INTO THE U.S.

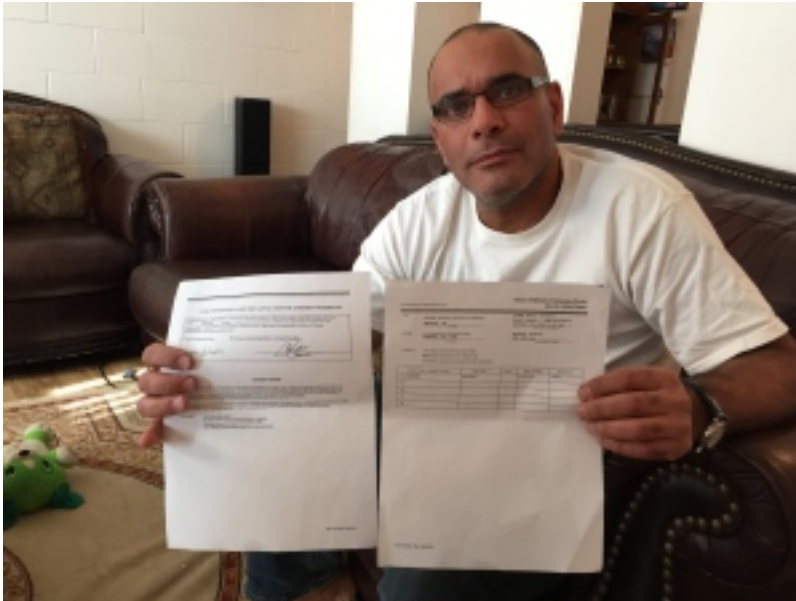


Photo Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/winnipeg-family-denied-entry-into-u-s-held-at-border-for-7-hours-1.3269341>

GENERAL WARM-UP ACTIVITY

Have you heard of the Winnipeg family that was denied entry into the US? What reasons are people denied entry into another country?

VOCABULARY

Complete the vocabulary activities below before listening to the news story. These will assist you to understand the audio.

VOCABULARY BUILDING ACTIVITY 1: CREATING AWARENESS

Instructions: Look at the words below. Circle the words you do not know.

border officials denied criminal record request
terrorists undergo withdraw citizens

VOCABULARY BUILDING ACTIVITY 2: DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE

Instructions: Match the words with the definitions provided. The first one is done for you.

Answer	Word	Definition
B	1. border officials	A. to experience or be subjected to something unpleasant

	2. terrorists	B. immigration or custom patrol officers
	3. denied	C. a list of a person's previous criminal convictions
	4. undergo	D. refuse to give something to someone
	5. criminal record	E. a legally recognized person in a particular country, town, or city.
	6. withdraw	F. people that use terrorism for political purposes
	7. request	G. to remove or take away
	8. citizens	H. to politely or formally ask for something

(See the answer key for answers)

LISTENING

Complete the listening activities below in order.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1: LISTENING FOR COMPREHENSION

Instructions: Listen to the **first** news story once for overall comprehension.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2: LISTENING FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

Instructions: Now look at the statements in the boxes below. Listen to the news story again. Indicate the order in which the following statements are made in story. The first one is done for you. You may have to listen more than once.

US Customs and Border Protection would not comment on the case.	Syhem Khallout has lived in Canada for 10 years.	Boulhout had been to the US several times.
He believes it is because they are Muslim.	The family was questioned for seven hours by border officials in the United States.	They were asked to withdraw their request to enter the US.
He was never given any explanation as to why he had to undergo questioning.	Boulhout came to Canada in 1987.	The couple and their children were denied entry into the country.

(See the answer key for answers)

LANGUAGE FOCUS

Instructions: Look at the transcript. Look at the verb tenses underlined and analyze the tenses used. Look at when the simple past is used versus the simple present tense. Then look at when the present perfect tense is used.

A Winnipeg man says border officials in the United States treated his family like terrorists over the weekend. They were questioned for seven hours then the couple and their four children were denied entry into the country.

Abdelkrim Boulhout said he was never given any explanation why he had to undergo questioning. He told CBC that he believes it is because they are Muslim.

The Algerian-born couple are Canadian citizens and their children – age nine, eight, five, and one were born in Canada.

Boulhout said he came to Canada in 1987 and has worked for Canadian Pacific Railway for the past 22 years. His wife Syhem Khallout has lived in Canada for 10 years.

Boulhout says he has no criminal record and had been to the US several times in the past. He said that his family went to Spain, Paris, and the Netherlands this past summer.

In the end, they were asked to withdraw their request to enter the US and allowed to drive back to Winnipeg.

US Customs and Border Protection would not comment on the case.

Tenses	Description
Simple Present	Simple present is used to talk about things in general or things that are true (e.g. They are Muslim).
Simple Past	The simple past is used to talk about actions or situations in the past. Regular verbs end in –ed (e.g. treated) and many verbs are irregular (e.g. said). Some of the simple past verbs above are in the passive form: was/were + simple past form (e.g. were questioned, were denied, was given, were born, were asked).
Present Perfect	Present perfect is formed with have/has + the past participle. The past participle often ends in –ed (e.g. has worked, has lived), but many verbs are irregular. The present perfect is used to say how long something has been happening (up to the present). Note: We use for when we say the period of time (e.g. for the past 22 years, for 10 years) and since when we say the beginning of the period (e.g. 8am).

NEWSCAST 2

CANADIAN WINS WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR



Photo Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/wpy2015-1.3270298>



Photo Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/wpy2015-1.3270298>

GENERAL WARM-UP ACTIVITY

Look at these two photographs. What comes to your mind when you look at these photographs? Do you like photography? What type of images do you like? Have you ever seen a fox or a snowy owl?

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VOCABULARY

Complete the vocabulary activities below before listening to the news story. These will assist you.

VOCABULARY BUILDING ACTIVITY 1: CREATING AWARENESS

Instructions: Look at the words below. Circle the words you do not know.

wildlife encounter captured jury deadly scene
finalist category goose snowy owl snowstorm

VOCABULARY BUILDING ACTIVITY 2: DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE

Instructions: Match the words with the definitions provided. The first one is done for you.

Answer	Word	Definition
E	1. wildlife	A. committee; panel; board
	2. encounter	B. a class; division; group
	3. captured	C. a large water bird with a long neck
	4. jury	D. fatal; mortal
	5. deadly	E. native animals, flora, and fauna
	6. scene	F. caught; seized; took
	7. finalist	G. covered with snow
	8. category	H. a competitor in the finals of a competition
	9. goose	I. a night bird with large eyes and a distinctive call
	10. snowy	J. a heavy snowfall and high winds
	11. owl	K. location; site; place
	12. snowstorm	L. caught; seized; took

(See the answer key for answers)

LISTENING

Complete the listening activities below in order.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1: LISTENING FOR COMPREHENSION

First, listen to the **second** news story for overall comprehension.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2: LISTENING FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

Now listen to the news story for a second time. Fill in the blanks.

Don Gutoski, a Canadian doctor who _____ a deadly encounter between a red fox and an Arctic fox in the _____ of Northern Manitoba, has been named Wildlife Photographer of the Year for 2015.

Gutoski _____ and photographed the scene for three hours in -30 degree temperatures. A member of the _____ for the contest said it was one of the _____ single storytelling photographs she had ever seen.

Ten-year-old Josiah Launstein, who belongs to a family of photographers near Pincher Creek, Alberta was a two-time _____ in the 10 and Under category, with his photos _____ Attack and Snowy Snowy, featuring a snowy owl hunting in a _____.

(See the answer key for answers)

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Why do people enjoy photography? Describe an image that you are familiar with that impacted you.

NEWSCAST 3

SWISS CREDIT REPORT FINDS 1% OF THE POPULATION NOW OWN HALF OF THE WORLD WEALTH



Photo Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/credit-suisse-world-wealth-report-1.3270056>

GENERAL WARM-UP ACTIVITY

Look at the photo. Do you know what a protest is? If not, look up the word protest in your dictionary. Look at the title and the photograph. What is the issue?

VOCABULARY

Complete the vocabulary activity below before listening to the news story. This will assist you understand the news story.

VOCABULARY BUILDING ACTIVITY 1: DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE

Instructions: Choose the correct meaning for the word in bold and underlined in each sentence.

1. Most companies are required to publish an annual **report**.

meeting outline document

2. He used his **wealth** to bribe officials.

position money family

3. They **gathered** wood to build a fire.

collected chopped piled

4. All of the **households** on the street were asleep.

businesses animals families

5. The bank took almost all of his **assets**.

belongings advantages traits

6. She travels **worldwide** as a consultant.

Europe globally United States

7. Birth rates have **declined** over the past decade.

increased decreased continued

8. He was **defined** as a dangerous person.

finer definite described

9. The stolen watch was **worth** \$500.

valued at used for sold for

10. Do you believe **inequality** between the rich and the poor is growing?

relationship difference abilities

(See the answer key for answers)

LISTENING

Complete the listening activity below.

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1: LISTENING FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

Now listen to the news story. Fill in the blanks below with the numbers you hear. You may need to listen more than once.

The new Swiss Credit Report states that _____ of the population now own _____ of the world wealth. According to the bank's calculations, just over \$_____ trillion US dollars worth of wealth has been gathered by households.

The ultra-rich are those that have a net worth of \$_____ million in assets. Worldwide, there are _____ people in that group.

In Canada, _____ million people last year were worth at least _____ million US dollars. However, due to the drop in the loonie, numbers declined in _____ to _____ people.

For the purposes of the survey, middle class was defined as anyone worth between \$_____ and \$_____.

At the bottom, _____ billion adults – _____ per cent of the world's population are worth less than \$_____ US.

The report stated that wealth inequality has continued to increase since _____.

(See the answer key for answers)

LANGUAGE FOCUS

Stating numbers can be challenging in another language. There are differences in the use of numbers between British and American English. In Canada, you will hear both used.

See the chart below of examples of numbers from one to a million:

1	one
21	twenty-one
84	eighty-four
100	a/one hundred
200	two hundred
432	British English: four hundred and thirty-two American English: four hundred thirty-two
1,000	a/one thousand
1,001	a/one thousand and one
1,100	one thousand one hundred/eleven hundred
2,000	two thousand
2,932	British English: two thousand nine hundred and thirty-two American English: two thousand nine hundred thirty-two
3,100	three thousand one hundred American English: also thirty-one hundred
100,000	a/one hundred thousand
1,000,000	a/one million

Saying **a** instead of **one**:

- You can say a hundred and fifty (150), but NOT two thousand a hundred and fifty (2,150).
- Say two thousand one hundred and fifty.
- People often use **a** instead of **one** in conversation, but it is better to use **one** in technical contexts.

In dates:

Say oh in giving the name of a year, such as 1904 ('nineteen oh four').

1066	ten sixty-six
1605	sixteen oh five
1776	seventeen seventy-six
1900	nineteen hundred
1999	nineteen ninety-nine
2000	(the year) two thousand
2001	two thousand and one American English also says: two thousand one

Using periods (.) and commas (,) with numbers:

- Say **point** to refer to the period.
- You can use a comma (,) in large numbers to separate the hundreds, thousands, and millions. **2,031** means 'two thousand and thirty-one'.
- Speakers of some other languages use (.) and (,) the other way around.

American speakers talk about money in the following way:

45¢	forty-five cents
\$1	a dollar
\$1.50	a dollar fifty
\$2	two dollars
\$2.55	two dollars and fifty-five cents or two fifty-five
\$100	a/one hundred dollars
\$115.99	a/one hundred fifteen dollars and ninety-nine cents or a/one hundred fifteen, ninety-nine
\$250	two hundred (and) fifty dollars or two fifty dollars
\$2,682.74	two thousand six hundred eighty-two dollars and seventy-four cents

Reference:

<http://www.macmillandictionaries.com/MED-Magazine/July2004/21-Language-Awareness-Numbers-UK.htm>

TRANSCRIPTS OF WEEKLY NEWSCASTS

	WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
Introduction	Hi. This is Natasha Frakes. You're listening to Learning English with CBC for the week of October 19th.	0:00
NEWSCAST 1 <i>Winnipeg family denied entry into US</i>	<p>A Winnipeg man says border officials in the United States treated his family like terrorists over the weekend. They were questioned for seven hours then the couple and their four children were denied entry into the country.</p> <p>Abdelkrim Boulhout said he was never given any explanation why he had to undergo questioning. He told CBC that he believes it is because they are Muslim.</p> <p>The Algerian-born couple are Canadian citizens and their children – age nine, eight, five, and one were born in Canada.</p> <p>Boulhout said he came to Canada in 1987 and has worked for Canadian Pacific Railway for the past 22 years. His wife Syhem Khalloot has lived in Canada for 10 years.</p> <p>Boulhout says he has no criminal record and had been to the US several times in the past. He said that his family went to Spain, Paris, and the Netherlands this past summer.</p> <p>In the end, they were asked to withdraw their request to enter the US and allowed to drive back to Winnipeg.</p> <p>US Customs and Border Protection would not comment on the case.</p>	0:09
NEWSCAST 2 <i>Canadian wins wildlife photographer of the year</i>	<p>Don Gutoski, a Canadian doctor who captured a deadly encounter between a red fox and an Arctic fox in the wilds of Northern Manitoba, has been named Wildlife Photographer of the Year for 2015.</p> <p>Gutoski watched and photographed the scene for three hours in -30 degree temperatures. A member of the jury for the contest said it was one of the strongest single storytelling photographs she had ever seen.</p> <p>Ten-year-old Josiah Launstein, who belongs to a family of</p>	1:37

	<p>photographers near Pincher Creek, Alberta was a two-time finalist in the 10 and Under category, with his photos Goose Attack and Snowy Snowy, featuring a snowy owl hunting in a snowstorm.</p>	
<p>NEWSCAST 3</p> <p><i>Swiss Credit Report finds 1% of the population now own half of the world wealth.</i></p>	<p>The new Swiss Credit Report states that 1% of the population now own 50% of the world wealth. According to the bank's calculations, just over \$250 trillion US dollars worth of wealth has been gathered by households.</p> <p>The ultra-rich are those that have a net worth of \$50 million in assets. Worldwide, there are 120,000 people in that group.</p> <p>In Canada, 1.1 million people last year were worth at least 1 million US dollars. However, due to the drop in the loonie, numbers declined in 2015 to 984,000 people.</p> <p>For the purposes of the survey, middle class was defined as anyone worth between \$50,000 and \$500,000.</p> <p>At the bottom, 3.4 billion adults – 71 per cent of the world's population are worth less than \$10,000 US.</p> <p>The report stated that wealth inequality has continued to increase since 2008.</p>	2:31

ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 1**WINNIPEG FAMILY DENIED ENTRY INTO US****VOCABULARY BUILDING ACTIVITY 2: DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE**

Answer	Word	Definition
B	1. border officials	A. to experience or be subjected to something unpleasant
F	2. terrorists	B. immigration or custom patrol officers
D	3. denied	C. a list of a person's previous criminal convictions
A	4. undergo	D. refuse to give something to someone
C	5. criminal record	E. legally recognized people in a particular country, town, or city.
G	6. withdraw	F. people that use terrorism for political purposes
H	7. request	G. to remove or take away
E	8. citizens	H. to politely or formally ask for something

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2: LISTENING FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

US Customs and Border Protection would not comment on the case. ⁹	Syhem Khalloot has lived in Canada for 10 years. ⁶	Boulhout had been to the US several times. ⁷
He believes it is because they are Muslim. ⁴	The family was questioned for seven hours by border officials in the United States. ¹	They were asked to withdraw their request to enter the US. ⁸
He was never given any explanation as to why he had to undergo questioning. ³	Boulhout came to Canada in 1987. ⁵	The couple and their children were denied entry into the country. ²

A Winnipeg man says border officials in the United States treated his family like terrorists over the weekend. They were questioned for seven hours (1) then the couple and their four children were denied entry into the country. (2)

Abdelkrim Boulhout said he was never given any explanation why he had to undergo questioning. (3) He told CBC that he believes it is because they are Muslim. (4)

The Algerian-born couple are Canadian citizens and their children – age nine, eight, five, and one were born in Canada.

Boulhout said he came to Canada in 1987 (5) and has worked for Canadian Pacific Railway for the past 22 years. His wife Syhem Khalloot has lived in Canada for 10 years. (6)

Boulhout says he has no criminal record and had been to the US several times in the past. (7) He said that his family went to Spain, Paris, and the Netherlands this past summer.

In the end, they were asked to withdraw their request to enter the US (8) and allowed to drive back to Winnipeg.

US Customs and Border Protection would not comment on the case. (9)

ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 2**CANADIAN WINS WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR****VOCABULARY BUILDING ACTIVITY 2: DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE**

Answer	Word	Definition
E	1. wildlife	A. committee; panel; board
	2. encounter	B. a class; division; group
	3. captured	C. a large water bird with a long neck
	4. jury	D. fatal; mortal
	5. deadly	E. native animals, flora, and fauna
	6. scene	F. caught; seized; took
	7. finalist	G. covered with snow
	8. category	H. a competitor in the finals of a competition
	9. goose	I. a night bird with large eyes and a distinctive call
	10. snowy	J. a heavy snowfall and high winds
	11. owl	K. location; site; place
	12. snowstorm	L. caught; seized; took

LISTENING ACTIVITY 2: LISTENING FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

Don Gutoski, a Canadian doctor who **captured** a deadly encounter between a red fox and an Arctic fox in the **wilds** of Northern Manitoba, has been named Wildlife Photographer of the Year for 2015.

Gutoski **watched** and photographed the scene for three hours in -30 degree temperatures. A member of the **jury** for the contest said it was one of the **strongest** single storytelling photographs she had ever seen.

Ten-year-old Josiah Launstein, who belongs to a family of photographers near Pincher Creek, Alberta was a two-time **finalist** in the 10 and Under category, with his photos **Goose** Attack and Snowy Snowy, featuring a snowy owl hunting in a **snowstorm**.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Answers will vary.

ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 3

SWISS CREDIT REPORT FINDS 1% OF THE POPULATION NOW OWN HALF OF THE WORLD WEALTH

VOCABULARY BUILDING ACTIVITY 1: DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE

1. Most companies are required to publish an annual report.

meeting outline **document**

2. He used his wealth to bribe officials.

position **money** family

3. They gathered wood to build a fire.

collected chopped piled

4. All of the households on the street were asleep.

businesses animals **families**

5. The bank took almost all of his assets.

belongings advantages traits

6. She travels worldwide as a consultant.

Europe **globally** United States

7. Birth rates have declined over the past decade.

increased **decreased** continued

8. He was defined as a dangerous person.

finer definite **described**

9. The stolen watch was worth \$500.

valued at used for sold for

10. Do you believe **inequality** between the rich and the poor is growing?

relationships **differences** abilities

LISTENING ACTIVITY 1: LISTENING FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

Now listen to the news story. Fill in the blanks below. You may need to listen more than once.

The new Swiss Credit Report states that **1%** of the population now own **50%** of the world wealth. According to the bank's calculations, just over **\$250** trillion US dollars worth of wealth has been gathered by households.

The ultra-rich are those that have a net worth of **\$50** million in assets. Worldwide, there are **120,000** people in that group.

In Canada, **1.1** million people last year were worth at least **1** million US dollars. However, due to the drop in the loonie, numbers declined in **2015** to **984,000** people.

For the purposes of the survey, middle class was defined as anyone worth between **\$50,000** and **\$500,000**.

At the bottom, **3.4** billion adults – **71** per cent of the world's population are worth less than **\$10,000** US.

The report stated that wealth inequality has continued to increase since **2008**.

FEEDBACK/COMMENTS

Thank you for downloading this lesson plan. If you have any comments or feedback, please feel free to email Deidre Lake at info@communication4integration.ca.